Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 7049

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MPOL NATO

SUBJECT: FEASIBILITY STUDY TO IMPROVE THE LOGISTIC POSTURE

IN ACE

REF: USNATO 6537 DTG 281820Z NOV 75

1. AS ANTICIPATED IN REFTEL SYG LUNS HAS NOW SENT PO TO DPC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES, PROPOSINGS MEANS FOR DEALING WITH MILITARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING FEASIBILITY STUDY. THERE FOLLOWS BELOW TEXT OF PO/75/148 DATED 19 DECEMBER 1975. BEGIN TEXT:

FEASIBILITY STUDY TO IMPROVE THE LOGISTICS POSTURE IN ACE

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL HAVE SEEN THE MILITARY COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM FORWARDING SACEURS FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE IMPORVEMENT OF THE LOGISTICS POSTURE IN ACE (MCM-59-75).

2. THE MILITARY COMMITTEE IN APPROVING SACEURS STUDY HAS ASKED THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE TO ARRANGE FOR SIX CONFIDENTIAL

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SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE LOOKED INTO BY THE APPROPRIATE SPECIALIST COMMITTEES OR WORKING GROUPS. THESE DRAW ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE LONG BEEN A CONCERN TO NATO BUT WHICH HITHERTO IT HAS NOT BEEN FOUND POSSIBLE TO RESOLVE. I

BELIEVE HOWEVER IT WOUD BE USEFUL IF THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE WERE AGAIN TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE NEED TO MAKE PROGRESS IN THESE FIELDS; I PROPOSE, THEREFORE, THAT ACTION BE TAKEN AS SET OUT BELOW:

A. CREATION OF A HIGH LEVEL LOGISTICS COORDINATION BODY. THE CNAD IS ALREADY ADDRESSING THE SUBJECT OF A COHERENT APPROACH TO NATO LOGISTICS INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A COORDINATING BODY OF THIS NATURE. AS SOON AS PROPOSALS CAN BE DEVELOPED ON SUCH A BODY THESE SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR ITS APPROVAL.

B. NATO ARMAMENTS CLEARING HOUSE.

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENCE SUPPORT SHOULD EXAMINE WHETHER NAMSA COULD BE EXPANDED TO TAKE ON A RESPONSIBLITY OF PROVIDING A NATO ARMAMENTS CLEARING HOUSE. IT MAY BE THAT IN SO DOING IT WILL BE FOUND NECESSARY TO FORM A TEMPORARY STEERING COMMITTEE UNDER THE AUTHOIRITY OF THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP; THIS WULD INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND NAMSA. ONCE FEASIBILITY PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED THESE SHOULD BE EXAMINED BY THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP BEFORE SUBMISSION TO THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

- C. STANDARDIZATION OF AMMUNITION.
 THIS MATTER IS ALREADY BEING STUDIED BY THE CNAD AND
 THE MILITARY AGENCY FOR STANDARDIZATION. NO SPECIFIC
 ADDITIONAL ACTION NEED BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME.
- D. REDISTRIBUTION OF NATIONAL SURPLUS SUPPLIES.
 IF NATINS AGREE TO CURRENT PROPOSALS THAT CNAD SHOULD
 TAKE ON ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE LOGISTICS
 FIELD, THIS PARTICULAR PROBLEM SHOULD BE ALLOCATED TO
 THE CNAD WITH A RECOMMENDATION THAT IT SHOULD CONDUCT
 A FEASIBILITY STUDY IN CONJUNCTION WITH NAMSA.
 MEANWHILE THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENCE
 SUPPORT SHOULD KEEP THE DEGENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN
 PERMANENT SESSION ADVISED ON THIS ISSUE.
- E. EXTENDING THE USE OF NAMSA. CONFIDENTIAL

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THE POSSIBILITES OF EXTENDING THE SUE OF NAMSA ON THE LINES SUGGESTED BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED UNDER ITEM (B) ABOVE.

- F. COOPERATIVE PROCUREMENT PROGRAMMES.
 THIS PARTICULAR PROPOSAL IS ONE WHICH SHOULD BE TAKEN
 UP IN THE FRAMEWORK OF WHATEVER NEW EFFORTS ON
 STANDARDIZATION AND ARMAMENTS RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT,
 PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT ARE INITIATED FOLLOWING
 THE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS.
- 3. UNLESS I HEAR TO THE CONTRARY BY 31 JANUARY 1976 IT WILL BE RECORDED THAT THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE IS IN AGREEMENT WITH THE ACTION I PROPOSE TO TAKE.

END TEXT.

- 2. WE FIND PO GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE AND CONSISTENT WITH CURRENT NATO COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES AND ON GOING INITIATIVES CONCERNING STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY. CONCERNING PARA 2(B) OF PO WE SUGGEST REWORDING ALONG FOLLOWING LINES SO THAT THE EXAMINATION TO PROVIDE A NATO ARMAMENTS CLEARING HOUSE IS NOT RESTRICTED TO CONSIDERATION OF NAMSA ALONE: " THE ASSISTNAT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENCE SUPPORT SHOULD EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A NATO ARMAMENTS CLEARING HOUSE, INCLDING ANY APPROPRATE NAMSA ROLE, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO REDISTRIBUTION OF MILITARY MATERIAL AND ANY CONSOLIDATED PROCUREMENT OF JOINT ARMAMENTS REQUIREMENTS. IT MAY BE THAT IN SO DOING IT WILL BE FOUND NECESSARY TO FORM A TEMPORARY STEERING COMMITTEE UNDER THE AUTH-ORITY OF THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP; THIS WOULD INCLUDE RE-PRESENTATIVES FROM THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND APPROPRIATE NATO ORGANIZATIONS. ONCE FEASIBILITY PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED THESE SHOULD BE EXAMINED BY THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP BEFORE SUBMISSION TO THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE."
- 3. WE RECOMMEND WASHINGTON APPROVAL FOR MISSION TO RESPOND TO PO BY PROVIDING ABOVE WORDING FOR APPROVAL BY DPC. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIANCE BY 19 JANUARY 1976. BRUCE

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